



NEWS RELEASE

City of South Fulton Government

Department of Communications and External Affairs

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South Fulton Joins Atlanta Community Food Bank to Address Food Insecurity

(CITY OF SOUTH FULTON, GA – January 25, 2022) – With food insecurity posing a serious challenge for many residents, the City of South Fulton today announced a partnership with the Atlanta Community Food Bank that will feed as many as 500 families a month during the next year.

Under the agreement, the food bank will source and provide between 15,000 and 20,000 pounds of food – some 175,000 meals – through monthly mobile food pantry distributions. City council members today approved \$100,000 from American Rescue Plan Act funds to cover the program's costs.

"Many of our families face the challenge of not having enough to eat," said Mayor Khalid Kamau. "The Atlanta Community Food Bank has stepped in to help provide nutritious meals at food drives throughout the pandemic. We are grateful to work with them again as we try to stop our area's food desert."

Under the project, one mobile pantry will be held each month in different convenient locations around the city. Earlier this month, city officials put out a call for community groups to submit program proposals for funding to provide assistance.

Food bank officials say the global COVID-19 crisis has led to a food shortage not seen in its 42-year history. Data from the organization shows the number of people experiencing food insecurity in its service area grew by 30 percent to 1 million at the height of the pandemic.

While that number has decreased, the food bank reports nearly 128,000 people in Fulton County alone – including more than 34,000 children – continue to struggle with having enough to eat. Many are forced to choose between paying for needed medical care or medicine and buying food.

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About the City of South Fulton

Home to nearly 108,000 residents, the City of South Fulton is Georgia's fifth-largest city. It covers more than 85 square miles and features both urban and rural landscapes with the most undeveloped land on metro Atlanta's southern side. Incorporated on May 1, 2017, South Fulton is among Georgia's youngest and fastest-growing cities – on the rise and recognized as the place you want to be. Learn more, download our smartphone app and connect with us on social media at cityofsouthfultonga.gov.